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Select Committee on Crime
House of Representatives
Congress of the United States
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

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ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN

September 12, 1969

My dear Professor Lederberg:

Your kind letter of September 8 was most welcome. I am delighted to learn that we share like views as to the need for an immediate government inquiry to settle conflicting claims concerning the use of marijuana.

As an avid reader of the "Washington Post," I consider your excellent column timely, relevant and a complementary feature to this outstanding newspaper.

You will want to know that the initial reaction to our statement requesting a marijuana report has been most favorable. Judges, newspaper editors, prosecutors, and parents who don't know what to tell their children want such a finding. I hope, as you do, that such a study will be objective and free from pressures.

Enclosed with this letter you will find voluminous materials concerning the Committee, its hearings and statements of witnesses. We are in the process of editing the testimony so do not, as yet, have a bound volume of our hearings prepared.

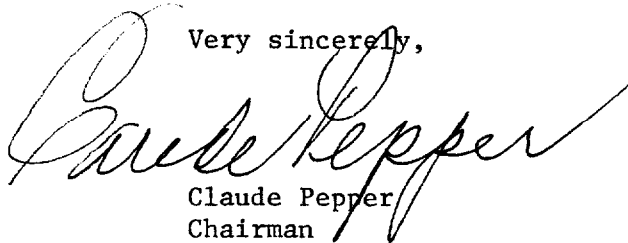
In addition, you will find my statements concerning the marijuana controversy, the need for a National Institute of Corrections, comments on the theatre production entitled "The Cage," and position papers outlining the scope and direction of our inquiries.

We expect to be holding hearings on the West Coast in the near future and, if your schedule permits, I would be honored to meet with you to discuss the Committee's plans and future.

Kindest regards, and

Believe me,

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Claude Pepper". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Claude Pepper
Chairman

Professor Joshua Lederberg
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Department of Genetics
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